

# CCSD 46 DISTRICT NEWS

JAN 24, 2024



## OPENING OF GMS EAST

We are enormously proud of the entire team that has worked so very hard to open a brand new school in a matter of days! We received the news on Wednesday, January 17, that due to the need for extensive repairs from damage incurred during the extreme weather, GMS would need to be closed for several weeks. Just days later, we were able to open on the satellite campus that we are calling GMS East, which is housed at the University Center of Lake County at 1200 University Center Drive, Grayslake.

Thank you so much to our supportive GMS families, the unbelievable GMS staff, the entire CCSD 46 administrative team, all of our vendor partners who had to change routines, and the generous support of University Center, our new partner that has made the smooth transition to our satellite campus possible!

We are also very grateful to the CCSD 46 Operations and Maintenance Team, who have continued to troubleshoot as we work through repairs, and have worked, literally, around the clock to keep our schools safe for students and staff.



## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Dear Teachers, Staff, Administrators, Families, Community Members, and Friends of D46 and Grayslake Middle School:

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...” - how clearly that famous quote echoes as we face significant building damage at Grayslake Middle School, resulting from the recent and particularly brutal winter storm during this opening month of 2024.

As human beings during challenging times, we lean into each other for support, strength, and inspiration to navigate the deep emotions, quick and stressful decisions, and hopeful solutions that are so necessary to attain successful healing, repair, and rejuvenation. Our community draws together in ways that we know stem from our love and our dedication to our schools, our families, and our kids.

The Board of Education is profoundly cognizant of and deeply grateful for the devoted work of everyone who has been involved in the planning and implementation of the GMS East plan for continued in-person learning. The Board would like to thank:

- the Operations and Maintenance Staff of D46 for their quick response to the issues once they became apparent. Their expertise, leadership, and dedication to our schools allowed the other six buildings to remain open (or open promptly) after needed repairs or inspections were completed;
- the Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Paraprofessionals, and Teacher Aides for their enormous capacity to pivot, create, implement, empower, and encourage our students in their learning journeys in spite of the challenges wrought by Mother Nature. Their deep love and care for their profession and for D46 students and families are the foundations upon which our district thrives in the community;
- Dr. Glickman and the D46 Administration Team for their extraordinary and calm leadership, creative solution capacity, and profound dedication to the well-being of staff and students throughout the District;
- Principal Smith and Assistant Principal Gross, as well as the entire Leadership Team at Grayslake Middle School for their unwavering calm and dedication to doing what is best for their Panthers. What an incredible group of educators;
- Our community members and families for your words of kindness and support, and for volunteering to help set up GMS East, donate food/supplies, and encourage and empower our teachers, staff, and students as this transition takes place for continued in-person learning;
- And most of all, our students! We know how challenging this past week has been, and we are inspired by your energy and dedication to continue being a D46 Panther, Bear Cub, Owl, NOVA, Mustang, Eagle, Falcon, or Wolf no matter what challenges come along! Thank you for being you and for making D46 the special place that it is!

The Board of Education thanks all of you for your patience, flexibility, love, and dedication to our schools and our communities. We are excited that in-person learning will continue with the partnership of the University Center in Grayslake, and we look forward to completing repairs at Grayslake Middle School to return to the building as soon as is safely possible.

With sincere gratitude, on behalf of all the Members of the D46 Board of Education,

Dr. Stephen H. Mack  
President



## MAINTAINING EXCELLENCE

### Referendum Voter Information

Attend a Community Meeting to Learn More

[d46.org/excellence](https://d46.org/excellence)

Please plan to attend an upcoming community meeting to learn about the limiting rate referendum which will be on the ballot for the March 19, 2024 election. We welcome you to encourage your friends, family, and neighbors to do so as well. Feel free to attend the meeting that is most convenient for you. There will be time for questions at all meetings.

More information on the referendum is available on the <https://d46.org/excellence/> website. It includes a tax calculator so you can better understand the impact of the net tax rate decrease on your tax bill. Additional details about the improvements to our schools and the impact that these projects will have on CCSD 46 students are also available.

#### UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETINGS

JAN 10, 2024 – Avon Center School 6:30 p.m.

JAN 29, 2024 – Frederick School 6:30 p.m.

JAN 31, 2024 – GMS - **CANCELED**

FEB 05, 2024 – Park Campus 6:30 p.m.

FEB 09, 2024 – Multilingual Parent Advisory Committee Presentation – Frederick School 6:30 p.m.

\*\*Spanish interpreter available

FEB 12, 2024 – Prairieview School 6:30 p.m.

FEB 20, 2024 – Woodview School 6:30 p.m.

FEB 28, 2024 – Meadowview School 6:30 p.m.

#### E-LEARNING FROM JANUARY 12-19

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We are appreciative of the flexibility and understanding of our school community as we managed a major snowstorm followed by bitter cold, which led to closing our school buildings for needed repairs. As you know, we were able to re-open all school buildings except for Frederick and Grayslake Middle School on Thursday, January 18th. Frederick and GMS students remained in E-Learning on January 18th and 19th.

The state of Illinois allows school districts to use up to five E-Learning Days in a school year. Although some of our students were able to be onsite in schools during the second half of the week, E-Learning in any school counts as E-Learning for the district. In short, we have used all of the E-Learning Days available to the district this year, and therefore, in the event that we have any more school building closures, those days would be traditional “emergency” or “snow days”, which would need to be made up at the end of the school year.



## TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

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**Ms. Amanda Pelsor, Director of Innovation**

Last winter we began assessing fees to students for damaged Chromebook devices and chargers. At that same time the district purchased cases for all student Chromebooks to provide extra protection for the devices and reduce damage. Chromebook cases are currently given free of charge to all students.

To ensure the longevity and functionality of the devices, it is crucial that these covers remain in good condition. We have seen a steep increase in damaged Chromebook cases throughout the district. To address these challenges we are adding a fee for damaged Chromebook cases of \$28, which is the direct cost of a case.

This new fee will begin on February 1, 2024, and like other fees will be added to Infinite Campus.

## COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

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**Ms. Leslie Armstrong, Communications Coordinator**

**Q: “What is the rationale behind sending robocalls that direct recipients to the website to view the message? Why not just say what the message is in the voicemail?”**

We've heard this concern from several of our stakeholders. Although there are reasons behind our current system for communicating (it has to do with the need to translate both our written and recorded messages into Spanish), we recognize that the pre-recorded phone calls are not working well for some people. We hear you and will be working on that. In the meantime, we are all looking forward to better weather and hopefully less need for emergency messages!



## REMEMBERING MR. HAUCK

We are deeply saddened to share the passing of one of our CCSD 46 staff members. Mr. Dale Hauck, affectionally known as Mr. Chippy or Mr. Pickles to our Woodview students, passed away on January 15 surrounded by family members. Dale has been a custodian with the district since August of 2021, serving mainly at Woodview School and recently at Prairieview School.

Dale was a kind person who was well-liked by all and had close relationships amongst the Woodview staff and the District's Operations & Maintenance staff. Dale's Celebration of Life will be held this Friday, January 26, 2024, at 6:00 PM at Bruch Funeral Home in Kenosha, WI. Visitation will be held from 4:00 PM until the time of service. Dale's family asks for everyone to dress casually. In lieu of flowers, Dale's family has requested that donations be made to Woodview School, 340 N Alleghany Rd. Grayslake, IL 60030.



### **A Celebration of Life**

Friday, January 26, 2024, 6:00 PM

### **Bruch Funeral Home**

3503 Roosevelt Road, Kenosha, WI 53142

<https://www.bruchfuneralhome.net/obituary/dale-hauck>



## SAVE THE DATE for BARNFEST 2024! A Night of Fun and Fundraising!

Dear CCSD46 Parents and Community Members,

We are excited to share with you the details of an upcoming event that promises to be a night of fun, entertainment, and community support - **Barnfest 2024**, organized by [Foundation 46](#).

### Event Details:

- Date: April 20, 2024
- Time: 6:00PM-11:00PM
- Location: Jesse Oaks Barn
- 18490 W Old Gages Lake Rd, Gages Lake, IL 60030

Barnfest is a cherished tradition, celebrating and supporting the incredible staff and community members of District 46. Since its inception in 2016, this adults-only event has grown into Foundation 46's capstone fundraising activity, generating crucial funds for grants that directly benefit all CCSD46 schools.

### What to Expect:

Dinner, Music, Silent Auction, Raffle Tickets, Raffle Baskets, Games, Prizes, and much more!

### Ticket Information:

Early Bird Tickets: \$40 each (available until February 14th)

General Admission: \$50 (after February 14th)

Your ticket includes event admission, dinner, and (5) complimentary raffle tickets. It's a fantastic opportunity for a night out with friends, family, and fellow community members, all while supporting the educational initiatives of CCSD46.

### How Your Support Makes a Difference:

All proceeds from Barnfest go directly towards funding grants for District 46 staff. These grants contribute to innovative projects, educational resources, and opportunities that enhance the learning experience for our students. Your participation in Barnfest helps build a brighter future for the entire CCSD46 community. We encourage you to mark your calendars for April 20, 2024, and secure your tickets early to take advantage of the special Early Bird pricing.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to seeing you at Barnfest 2024!

Warm regards,  
Foundation 46



# MAINTAINING EXCELLENCE

## Referendum Voter Information

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[d46.org/excellence](https://d46.org/excellence)



### Informational Meetings

CCSD 46 will be conducting informational meetings in January and February. Please join us at one of these upcoming events. The content is expected to be the same at all meetings so attend the session that is most convenient for you. Share this information with friends, family, and neighbors who are interested in our schools.

Community Consolidated School District 46 is committed to maintaining educational excellence and fulfilling our mission of empowering learners, creating equity, and cultivating community.

The CCSD 46 Board of Education has unanimously adopted a resolution to place a limiting rate referendum on the March 19, 2024 ballot. Approximately half of the proceeds of the voter-approved referendum would focus on capital facility improvements and the other half on operating needs.

#### Capital facility needs to be addressed:

- Funding emergency response systems and security cameras
- Replacing roofing, mechanical, plumbing, and HVAC systems
- Constructing ADA accessibility improvements
- Renovating libraries to include space for STEM programming and collaboration
- Reconfiguring and improving student support spaces

#### Operating needs to be addressed:

- Attracting, training, and retaining quality teachers
- Maintaining class sizes
- Protecting current programming

#### Tax rate reduced, even with passage of referendum:

By timing the proposed limiting rate increase to begin after the District pays off existing debt, the referendum would result in a net tax decrease.

JAN  
29

Monday, JAN 29, 6:30 PM  
Frederick School  
595 Frederick Road, Grayslake

JAN  
31

Wednesday, JAN 31 - CANCELED  
Grayslake Middle School  
440 N Barron Blvd., Grayslake

FEB  
5

Monday, FEB 5, 6:30 PM  
Park Campus  
400 W. Townline Road, Round Lake

FEB  
9

Friday, FEB 9, 6:30 PM \*\*  
Multilingual Parent Advisory Committee  
Frederick School  
595 Frederick Road, Grayslake  
\*\*Spanish interpreter available

FEB  
12

Monday, FEB 12, 6:30 PM  
Prairieview School  
103 E. Belvidere Road, Hainesville

FEB  
20

Tuesday, FEB 20, 6:30 PM  
Woodview School  
340 Alleghany Road, Grayslake

FEB  
28

Wednesday, FEB 28, 6:30 PM  
Meadowview School  
291 Lexington Lane, Grayslake



Community Consolidated School District 46  
565 Frederick Road, Grayslake, IL 60030  
[d46.org/excellence](https://d46.org/excellence)

Empowering Learners | Creating Equity | Cultivating Community

 [www.d46.org](https://www.d46.org)

